

arrangement to take care of a decent cremation and funeral rites of widows who die in Ashrams; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) the Government of Uttar Pradesh, who are directly concerned with it have to take appropriate action in problems relating to cremation of such women. Government of India has constitute a Central Committee in June, 1999 to coordinate all such efforts including rehabilitation of marginalized women of Vrindavan in which the Governments of Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal, concerned Central Ministries and NGOs are represented. Based on the decision and recommendations of the Committee, further action is being taken to rehabilitate these women and to work out a solution to their problems, including shelter, vocation, health needs etc.

**Government withdrawal from University Education**

2262. SHRI K.M. KHAN: will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to withdraw from University education;

(b) if so, what could be the fate of University teachers, including their service conditions;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the World Bank has recommended to Government to withdraw from University Education; and

(d) if so, what are the salient features of the World Bank recommendations with regard to University Education?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) No, Sir. The outlays for higher education including University education have been significantly stepped up during the Ninth Plan.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

(c) No, Sir.